

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF | : | Administrative Action |
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| | : | |
| KRISTEN DICK, L.P.N. | : | |
| License # 26NP 05982400 | : | FINAL ORDER |
| | : | OF DISCIPLINE |
| | : | |
| TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE | : | |
| STATE OF NEW JERSEY | : | |

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Kristen Dick ("respondent") is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about November 7, 2014 the Board sent a letter of inquiry to respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record, asking, among other things, for certificates of completion for continuing education taken in the last three years.

3. With respect to the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 licensing cycle, respondent submitted documentation of completion of no continuing education completed during that licensing cycle. Respondent submitted documentation of 5.75 contact hours of continuing education completed during the June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2011 licensing cycle, and 4.5 contact hours of qualifying continuing education completed in the June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015 biennial period.

4. Respondent indicated on her 2013 renewal application that she would have completed all required continuing education for the 2011-2013 licensing cycle by May 31, 2013.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to document completion of thirty (30) contact hours of nursing continuing education to be attributed to the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 licensing cycle constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's indication on her 2013 renewal application that she would have completed all required nursing continuing education for the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 licensing cycle by May 31, 2013 constitutes misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a

Provisional Order of Discipline seeking a suspension, reprimand, and a two hundred and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty was entered on May 28, 2015. Copies were served upon respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order of Discipline and acknowledged that she had not met the continuing education requirements for June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013. She mistakenly believed that training tests for her job were counted as continuing education. She provided proof of completion of 30.15 hours of continuing education completed within the June 1, 2013 - May 31, 2015 biennial period and 30.25 hours completed within the June 1, 2015 - May 31, 2017 biennial period. Respondent may apply the hours completed in July 2015 to cure the deficiency of the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 biennial period and avoid suspension of her license.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined

that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. Inasmuch as Respondent cured the deficiency in her continuing education, the Board determined that suspension was no longer warranted. However, the Board determined that Respondent's failure to timely complete the required continuing education within the June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2013 biennial period warrants imposition of a two hundred dollar and fifty dollar (\$250) civil penalty. Also, a reprimand is warranted for Respondent's corresponding answer on her renewal application whereby she misrepresented that she had completed the required continuing education when she was unable to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that she had done so.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 14th day of December, 2015,
ORDERED that:

1. A reprimand is hereby imposed for the violation of
N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

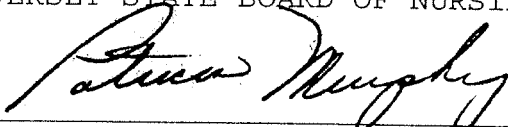
2. A civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) is hereby imposed for the violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to State Board of Nursing, Attention: Leslie Burgos, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other

form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than twenty-one (21) days after the date of filing of this Final Order of Discipline. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

3. Continuing education completed after May 31, 2015 and applied to cure the deficiency of a previous biennial period shall not also be applied towards the current biennial period.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President